MARVEL LEGACY

19

THE NEGATIVE ZONE WAR

X-MEN GOLD

GUGGENHEIM
MEDINA
YEUNG
PRIANTO

X-MEN GOLD

GENETICALLY GIFTED WITH UNCANNY ABILITIES, MUTANTS ARE BELIEVED TO BE THE NEXT STAGE OF HUMAN EVOLUTION. WHILE THE WORLD HATES AND FEARS THEM, KITTY PRYDE HAS REFORMED THE TEAM OF MUTANT HEROES KNOWN AS THE X-MEN TO USE THEIR POWERS FOR GOOD AND SPREAD A POSITIVE IMAGE OF MUTANTKIND.

PREVIOUSLY IN *X-MEN GOLD...*

THE X-MEN ARE STRANDED IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE.

STUCK ON A WORLD CALLED DARTAYUS, KITTY AND HER TEAM WERE INADVERTENTLY THROWN INTO THE MIDDLE OF A CIVIL WAR STARTED BY A DARTAYAN MUTANT CALLED KOLOGOTH. KOLOGOTH HAD RUN AFOUL OF THE X-MEN WHILE BANISHED TO EARTH. THOUGH HE WAS SOON RESCUED BY HIS PEOPLE IN A MASSIVE STARSHIP, HE DIDN'T LEAVE ALONE--KITTY AND KURT WERE TAKEN CAPTIVE.

COLOSSUS AND THE REST OF THE X-MEN MOUNTED A RESCUE MISSION, AND AFTER AN INITIAL SKIRMISH THE X-MEN AND THE DARTAYAN GOVERNMENT REACHED AN AGREEMENT: THE X-MEN WOULD FIND KOLOGOTH AND HIS REBELS AND TAKE THEM OUT. KURT WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM KOLOGOTH'S FORCES BY BLINDLY TELEPORTING AWAY...WHICH LEFT HIM HORRIBLY INJURED AND ALL ALONE.

THOUGH KITTY WAS ABLE TO REUNITE WITH THE X-MEN, THEY WERE UNABLE TO STOP KOLOGOTH BEFORE HE UNLEASHED HIS VENGEANCE UPON THE WORLD...

THE NEGATIVE ZONE WAR

PART 4

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KITTY PRYDE

STORM
ORORO MUNROE

NIGHTCRAWLER
KURT WAGNER

COLOSSUS
PIOTR RASPUTIN

PRESTIGE
RACHEL GREY

OLD MAN LOGAN

I WAS BORN INTO *STRIFE.*

A MONSTER. AN OUTCAST.

A *MUTANT.*

SCYTHIAN. MY LORD...

CAST OUT BY MY MOTHER.

CONDEMNED TO DEATH BY MY FATHER.

HARDSHIP IS MY *TRUE* PARENTAGE.

AUGOR...MY TEACHER, MY MENTOR... MY LOVER.

HE WAS THE FIRST TO TEACH ME OF THE FALLEN GOD OF OUR WORLD--*SCYTHIAN.*

...SLAY!

AND I SAW OPPORTUNITY IN THE POWER OF THAT BELIEF.

WHICH GAVE ME POWER OF MY OWN.

HAHAHA!

THE POWER TO BRING SCYTHIAN FORTH ONCE AGAIN. AND LAY WASTE TO THIS WORLD.

ALL MY DAYS HAVE LED TO THIS ONE MOMENT...

THE PLANET DARTAYUS.
IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE.

...AND IT IS GLORIOUS.

HA HAHAHA HA!

SO IT'S A GOD, HUH?

DOESN'T LOOK SO TOUGH.

NOT SURE I SHARE LOGAN'S DEFINITION OF "TOUGH."

SHOW ME SOMEONE WHO DOES.

POINT BEING, I HOPE YOU'VE GOT A PLAN FOR FIGHTING A GOD, KITTY.

WE'RE ABOUT TO FIND OUT.

INK, I NEED YOU TO FIND KURT. HE'S GOTTA BE OUT HERE ***SOMEWHERE.***

ORORO, HISAKO, PETER...LET'S TAKE DOWN A DEITY.

YOU FORGETTING SOMEBODY, PUNKIN'?

NOPE. NEED YOU TO HANDLE THE SCALY GREEN GUY.

HE STARTED ALL THIS AND I DON'T WANT TO WAIT TO SEE WHAT HE'S GOT PLANNED NEXT.

COULDN'T AGREE MORE.

SNIKT

HOW DO WE TAKE DOWN SOMETHING THIS SIZE?

HOPEFULLY, ***QUICKLY,*** HISAKO.

BEFORE HE DESTROYS ALL IN HIS PATH.

THIS--THIS IS NOT THE SCYTHIAN OF THE HOLY BOOKS.

THAT THING IS UNCONTROLLABLE, WITHOUT REMORSE OR MERCY.

THIS IS THE SCYTHIAN OF THE *ANCIENT TEXTS.*

IS IT NOT RESPLENDENT?

ARE YOU--? ARE YOU SAYING YOU *KNEW* THE GOD WE WERE RAISING...

...WAS A FORCE OF ABSOLUTE DESTRUCTION?

YES, IT'S ALL COMING TO FRUITION NOW.

I HAVE BROUGHT FORTH FROM STONE THE INSTRUMENT OF MY *VENGEANCE.*

YOUR... VENGEANCE--?

ON THE PLANET THAT MARKED ME FROM BIRTH AS "OTHER."

THAT CONDEMNED ME AS A CRIMINAL.

THAT EXILED ME OUT TO ANOTHER WORLD. THIS IS MY--

KEEP GOIN', BUB!

DON'T STOP MONOLOGUING ON MY ACCOUNT.

OLD MAN. ISN'T THAT WHAT THEY CALL YOU?

YEAH.

BUT LEMME SHOW YOU WHAT PEOPLE *USED* TO CALL ME.

"KITTY..."

...I'VE SPOTTED KURT.

"HE DOESN'T LOOK TOO GOOD."

GET HIM.

GETTING.

SHRAK

KATYA!

MERCIFUL GODDESS, HE IS--

UGNF--!!!

KA-THUNK

ORORO!

GUYS...

I'M PSI-LINKING US ALL.

KURT'S IN A BAD WAY.

AND KITTY'S ALSO OUT OF THE PICTURE.

"SHE LANDED IN THE CAPITAL, PHASED THROUGH THE GROUND.

"BUT SHE'S GONNA BE A WHILE WORKING HER WAY BACK."

MIGHT JUST BE ME, BUT THIS FEELS A LITTLE OUT OF OUR LEAGUE.

AGREED.

X-MEN...

FALL BACK!!!

LOGAN, YOU COPY? WE'RE RETREATING.

SHUDDUP, INK. M'BUSY HERE...

YOU LOOK TIRED, OLD ONE.

AIN'T GONNA LIE TO YA...

...I'M EXHAUSTED.

WHICH IS MORE'N I SAY *YOU'LL* BE IN A MINUTE.

I WILL WEAR YOUR SKIN AS A SHAWL FOR DISTRACTING ME WHILE I SAVOR MY VENGEANCE.

WAK

UNGH--

YOUR "VENGEANCE."

YOU TURNED A WHOLE PLANET UPSIDE DOWN. KILLED A WHOLE BUNCH'A PEOPLE, HURT EVEN ***MORE.***

INCLUDING FRIENDS OF MINE.

ALL 'CAUSE YOU WERE BORN HATED AND FEARED.

TO WHICH I JUST GOTTA SAY...

SHHHKT

...GET OVER IT.

KOLOGOTH...

"WE ARE SAFE FOR NOW..."

PARLIAMENT.
THE SEAT OF POWER ON DARTAYUS.

...KATYA IS HEADING BACK, BUT WE MUST FIGURE OUT A WAY TO DEFEAT A *GOD*.

YOU *CAN'T*.

SCYTHIAN IS THE ALL-BEING.

HE IS THE RE-MAKER OF WORLDS. HE IS GLORIOUS POWER UNBRIDLED.

I REGRET THE PART I PLAYED IN HIS RETURN. I WAS... DECEIVED.

I THOUGHT WE WERE WORKING TO *FREE* DARTAYUS, NOT DESTROY IT.

WELL, THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE UP FOR IT.

HOW DID YOUR LEADER TURN SCYTHIAN *FROM* STONE?

BETTER YET, HOW DO WE GET SCYTHIAN BACK THAT WAY?

I DO NOT KNOW.

THE STORY OF SCYTHIAN'S ENTOMBMENT IS CONFINED TO THE ANCIENT TEXTS--TEACHINGS I WAS UNAWARE OF UNTIL TODAY.

SNIKT

GULP!

BUT I RECLAIMED THEM FROM KOLOGOTH'S QUARTERS AFTER HIS PASSING, AND I'M A QUICK STUDY.

BE A QUICK *TALKER*, TOO. AT SOME POINT, SOMEONE TURNED SCYTHIAN INTO A STATUE. *HOW?*

MAGIC. ANCIENT AND EXTINCT.

"EXTINCT" AS IN...

MAGIC WENT THE WAY OF DUST LONG AGO. IT HAS NOT BEEN PRACTICED ON DARTAYUS FOR GENERATIONS.

KNEW WE SHOULDA BROUGHT ILLYANA ALONG.

IT'S TOO LATE FOR SECOND-GUESSING.

IT'S A NIGHTMARE OUT THERE.

PEOPLE ARE RUNNING FOR THEIR LIVES

KOLOGOTH UNLEASHED DOOMSDAY ON THIS PLANET.

THE MILITARY IS DECIMATED

...WE'RE THE ONLY GAME IN TOWN.

SO NOTHING NEW, YOU'RE SAYING.

FIRST THINGS FIRST-- HOW'S KURT?

RECUPERATING.

AT LEAST THERE'S SOME GOOD NEWS.

ALL RIGHT, I CAUGHT THE TAIL-END OF THAT MAGIC STUFF. IT SOUNDS LIKE SCYTHIAN CAN'T BE HURT...

...BUT HE CAN BE *IMPRISONED.*

YEAH, I DON'T THINK YOU CAUGHT THE PART ABOUT HOW THERE'S NOTHING LEFT ON THIS PLANET THAT'LL DO THE JOB.

ACTUALLY...

GOING OFF PLANET'S WHAT I'VE GOT IN MIND.

SO WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO GET THE DARTAYANS TO GIVE US A SHIP.

HOW'S IT HANDLING?

ROUGH. THE CONTROLS ARE FIGHTING ME EVERY CHANCE THEY GET.

AND HOW ARE *YOU?*

EQUALLY ROUGH.

I'M NOT SURE I HAVE THE STRENGTH FOR THIS, *KÄTZCHEN.*

YES, YOU DO. YOU'RE ONE OF THE TOUGHEST GUYS I KNOW, FUZZY ELF. AND THE BEST PILOT WE GOT.

ORORO, YOU READY?

AS I'LL EVER BE, KITTEN.

IF THIS WORKS, WE'RE GONNA BE FIGHTING A TON OF ATMOSPHERE.

KEEP THE JET STREAM ON OUR SIDE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN.

YOU GUYS GOOD TO GO?

DA.

OUR DARTAYAN FRIENDS WHIPPED THIS UP AWFUL FAST.
YOU THINK IT WILL WORK?
IT'S *YOUR* PLAN, BOSS.
DON'T REMIND ME.
WHEN YOU'RE THROUGH, PRESS THE BUTTON ON THE HARNESS TO DETACH.
IF THEIR ENGINEERS ARE WORTH A DAMN, A BARB SHOULD DEPLOY TO ANCHOR THE CABLE, MAYBE.
"IF," "SHOULD" AND "MAYBE." WELL, *THAT* CERTAINLY INSPIRES CONFIDENCE.
LIKE THE KID SAID, IT'S YOUR PLAN.
ARE YOU READY, KATYA?
TO JUMP OUT OF A PERFECTLY GOOD SPACESHIP?
WE'LL SEE HOW LONG IT STAYS "GOOD."
JUST NEEDS TO BE STRONG ENOUGH TO BREAK ORBIT.
KURT'S GIVING THE ENGINES EVERYTHING.
TRYING TO, AT LEAST.
THESE DARTAYAN CONTROLS ARE ***BIO-SYNCED***--THEY REQUIRE ***STRENGTH*** TO OPERATE. IT'S ALL I CAN DO TO KEEP US FLYING.

NOW OR NEVER, PUNKIN'.

KATYA...

YEAH?

COME BACK TO ME.

DAMN.

YOU ALWAYS SAVE THE SWEETEST THINGS FOR WHEN I'M ABOUT TO DIE.

PLEASELET THISWORKPLEASE LETTHISWORK PLEASELETTHIS WORK...

RRRRR...

ALL RIGHT, ERIC...

KA-THUNK

SHANG

SHUNK

FISH IS HOOKED

...NOW COULD SOMEONE CATCH ME, PLEASE?

CAUGHT.

THANKS, ERIC.

ORORO? HOW ARE WE LOOKING?

CLEARING AN AERODYNAMIC PATH FOR US, KITTEN.

GOOD WORK. GET BACK ON BOARD. IT'S UP TO KURT NOW.

YOU WANT ME TO SPELL YOU?

DESPERATELY SO. BUT I'D NEED TO TEACH YOU HOW TO PILOT AND I DON'T BELIEVE WE HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME.

BESIDES...

I'VE NEVER TOWED A GOD BEFORE!

THE MOUNTING IS COMING LOOSE!

WE NEED TO DO THIS *NOW!*

YOU HEARD HIM. WE'VE GOTTA GET TO THE *VORTEX* AT THE CENTER OF THE NEGATIVE ZONE--

TRYING MY BEST, *KÄTZCHEN*, BUT THE ENGINES ARE FIGHTING ME...

LOOK AT THESE READINGS...

"...PETER'S IN TROUBLE."

I'M ON IT. JUST GET US THERE FAST.

WE'RE ALMOST THERE...

"...PETER JUST HAS TO HANG ON A LITTLE LONGER."

KATYA. YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE...

NONE OF US SHOULD.

BUT THE GRAVITATIONAL PULL OF THE NEGATIVE ZONE VORTEX IS THE ONLY THING I CAN THINK OF STRONG ENOUGH TO TRAP SCYTHIAN.

STATUS, GUYS?

RRRRUUUMMMMBBBLLLEEE

WE'RE AS CLOSE AS WE DARE.

MANEUVERING US INTO POSITION...

LISTEN, WHEN KURT GIVES THE GREEN LIGHT, LET THE CABLE GO.

I'M GONNA PHASE US BOTH SO WE DON'T GET THROWN OUT INTO THE NEGATIVE ZONE, TOO.

DO IT **NOW**, KÄTZCHEN!

SHARANG

HGH--

HANG ON!

"IT'S WORKING.

"THE VORTEX IS PULLING HIM IN."

AND *US* AS WELL.

I'M GIVING THE ENGINES ALL I HAVE LEFT.

"WE'RE CLEAR."

YOU DON'T LOOK TOO HAPPY ABOUT IT.

ENGINES AND MAINS ARE *OFFLINE.*

I CAN'T RESTART POWER.

THINK WHAT KURT MEANS IS, EVERYBODY GRAB HOLD'A SOMETHING.

JA...

"...BRACE FOR IMPACT!"

KRAKOOM

NEXT: MAROONED!

HOUSE OF X

This HOUSE OF X I'd like to do something I wanted to do a while back but didn't get the chance to... introduce you to Associate Editor Darren Shan. He's been working on some absolutely great books over here. I've asked him to step in and talk about some projects he's wrapping up and some he's ready to unleash:

Hi, X-Fans! Ever since joining the X-Men Group eight months ago (WHAT?!), the old adage "Hope you survive the experience" has never felt more appropriate. It's been a whirlwind of projects that I'm really proud of and excited for you to read! We're winding down titles like GENERATION X, JEAN GREY and ICEMAN...and although that can be a sad thing, I can't wait for you guys to see how we close them out. Each of these books has a truly special ending, some of which leave these characters in new places and situations! But as some doors close, new ones open!

As for new things, this month we have the launch of fan-favorite X-couple ROGUE & GAMBIT by Kelly Thompson (HAWKEYE) and Pere Pérez (DEADPOOL VS. PUNISHER) and LEGION by Peter Milligan (X-STATIX) and Wilfredo Torres (MOON KNIGHT).

But it doesn't end there. In March, we've got WEAPON H by Greg Pak (PLANET HULK, WEAPON X) and Cory Smith (X-MEN BLUE, AMAZING SPIDER-MAN). And surely by now you've heard about NEW MUTANTS by Matthew Rosenberg and Adam Gorham! Four new series, each with their own distinct flavor!

And speaking of Matthew Rosenberg... this month also sees the finale of PHOENIX RESURRECTION! Get ready to cry for that one, folks!

-Darren Shan

PHOENIX RESURRECTION:

The Phoenix Force is back! But what does it want? And does this mean the return of the adult Jean Grey?
Issue #1 on sale now!
Issues #2-5 on sale weekly in January!

X-MEN GOLD:

Nightcrawler...prisoner of the Dartayan Empire! Can he escape?!
Issue #18 on sale now!

X-MEN BLUE:

The Cross Time Capers continues!
Issue #18 on sale now!

WEAPON X:

Sabretooth takes on the Nuke Platoon with his ally...the original Nuke?!
Issue #13!

ALL-NEW WOLVERINE:

Wolverine and her family versus the Orphans of X!
Issue #29!

GENERATION X:

Jubilee and the original Gen X take on Monet!
Issue #85 on sale now!

JEAN GREY:

Phoenix Resurrection tie-in! It's all been leading to this!
Issue #11!

CABLE:

Cable and the Newer Mutants are overwhelmed! Has Gideon won?
Issue #153!

ICEMAN:

Iceman vs. Daken...Round 2!
Issue #9!

OLD MAN LOGAN:

Who is the Scarlet Samurai?!
Issue #33!

ASTONISHING X-MEN:

New arc! Charles Xavier is back...but is he the same man we once knew?
Issue #7!

Make sure to let us know your thoughts. You can email us at officex@marvel.com (add "OKAY TO PRINT" in the subject line). And don't forget about #XMENMONDAY on Twitter, where I'll post some tidbit from one or more of the books and address your questions. I can't guarantee an answer for everybody, but I'll do my darndest!

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ZONE